Attorney Docket: 081468-0277120

Client Reference: P-0172.010-US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 3244

VAN DIJK ET AL.

Application No.: 09/777,460

Group Art Unit: 2623

Filed: February 8, 2001

Examiner: V. BALI

Title: OBJECT POSITIONING METHOD FOR A LITHOGRAPHIC PROJECTION

APPARATUS

March 3, 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir,

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination of the above-captioned patent application. This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Final Office Action dated October 3, 2005, and the Advisory Action dated January 31, 2006, the date for response to which is March 3, 2006, with a Petition for a One Month Extension of Time filed herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as follows: